



## State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE CAPITOL  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE VINCENT J. CANDELORA  
EIGHTY-SIXTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
ROOM 4200  
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

TOLL FREE: (800) 842-1423  
CAPITOL: (860) 240-8700  
EMAIL: [Vin.Candelora@housegop.ct.gov](mailto:Vin.Candelora@housegop.ct.gov)

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Testimony of  
State Representative Vincent J. Candelora  
In Support of Senate Bill 933  
AN ACT CONCERNING SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS  
Before the Education Committee

February 23, 2011

Good morning Chairmen Fleischmann and Stillman, Ranking Members Giuliano and Boucher, and members of the Education Committee. I am testifying in support of S.B. No. 933 AN ACT CONCERNING SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS. This bill would merely give superintendents the ability to seek a waiver from the State Department of Education for an individual who does not hold a bachelor's degree, but otherwise is qualified to work as a substitute teacher.

In North Branford, one of our schools has a five year paraprofessional who would substitute teach in emergency situations for the past 4 years. Under current law, this person is in now prohibited from subbing because they do not hold a bachelor's degree. While I understand the public policy for requiring bachelor degree's for substitutes, I believe this bill improves upon the policy by giving some flexibility to a superintendent if, in their judgment, it's in the best interest of the district.

Thank you for the hearing on SB 933 and I wish to express my support of the bill and the committee's favorable action.

Respectfully Yours,

Vincent Candelora  
State Representative